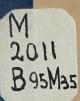
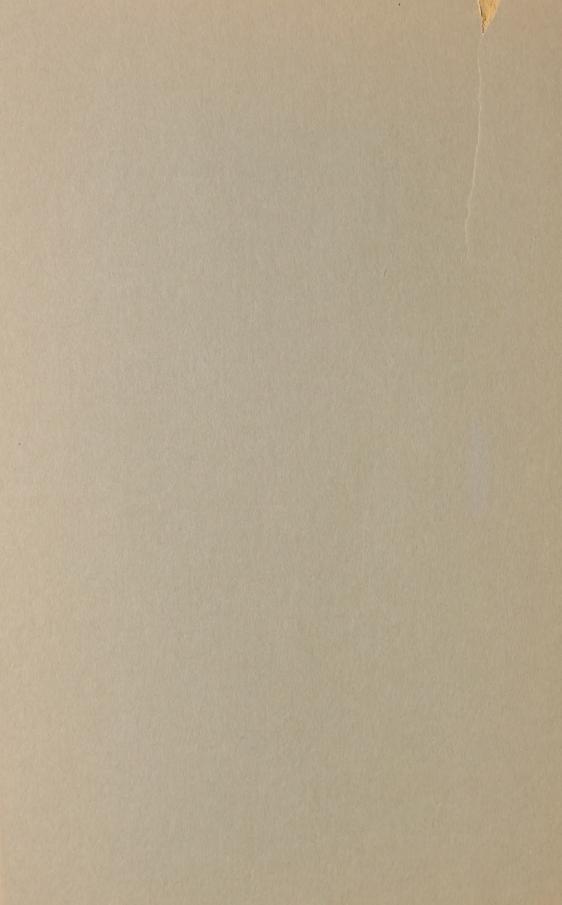


Byrd, William

CMass, 5 voices

Mass for 5 voices





Arnold Walter.

MASS

for

Five Voices

by

WILLIAM BYRD.

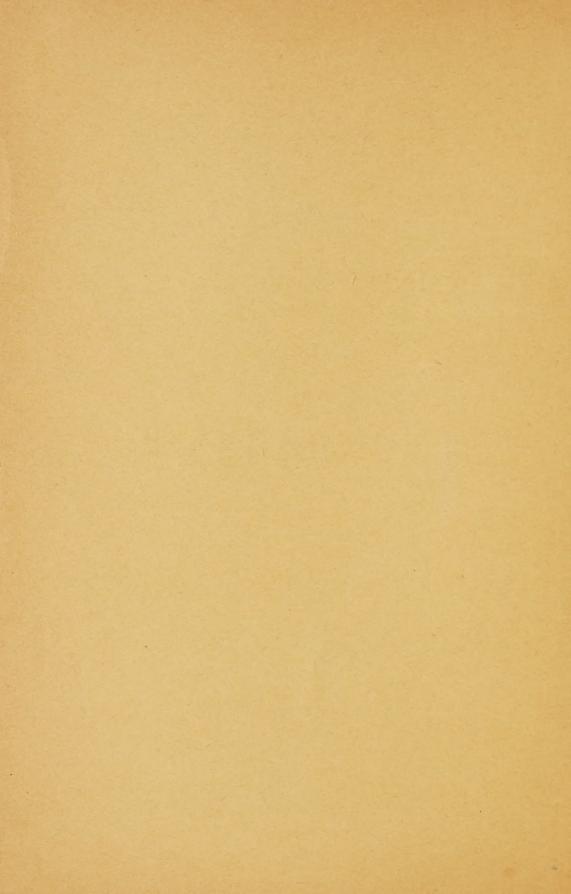
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Five Voices

by

WILLIAM BYRD.

Edited by

EDMUND H. FELLOWES.

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London. STAINER & BELL LTP 58 Berners Street. W.I.

MADE IN ENGLAND

A critical text of the three Masses of Byrd will be printed in due course in the Edition of Tudor Church Music which is being produced under the auspices of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust: Consequently it has seemed unnecessary in the present edition to annotate the few instances in which accidentals have been added by the Editor in accordance with the principles of musica ficta, nor the few slight errors which occur in the original text.

The present edition has been prepared from the copy of the original part-books in the British Museum, to which M. W. Barclay Squire assigns the approximate date 1588.

In these part-books there are, of course, no bars, but the barring inserted here in the present edition is in conformity with the practice actually prevailing in this matter in vocal scores in Byrd's life-time. A good example of contemporary barring of this character is to be seen in Gibbons's manuscript in the Library of Christ Church, Oxford (M.S. 21). The bar-lines were placed at irregular intervals, and the size of the bars usually varied between lengths of three or four semibreves, though occasionally they included only two, or even one semibreve, and sometimes they were extended to include five or more. In triple measure the general practice was to include six rather than three minims in a bar, but even this was subject to irregularity.

Any system of barring introduced into the vocal scores of sixteenth century music must inevitably interfere to some extent with the rhythmic outline of one voice-part or another, but it must be clearly understood that the bar-lines meant far less to the Tudor musicians than they do to us from the point of view of rhythmic control. Their main purpose was to provide the minimum of guidance which is indispensable to the human eye for reading a vocal score of several parts; but since this purpose made their presence essential, they were inserted at irregular intervals so that they might interfere as little as possible with the rhythmic features of the music. It is certainly true that the melodic and rhythmic out-lines of the music are made far clearer when the music is barred according to this plan, rather than at regular intervals of one semibreve, or even two.

In performing this music singers must maintain a complete freedom in the matter of rhythm even though a triple phrase is sometimes intersected by a bar-line.

In determining the position of the bar-lines the Editor has endeavoured as much as possible to secure sequences of bars of the same lengths.

A few expression marks have been inserted in this edition. According to custom there were none in the original edition, but all the music belonging to this period certainly calls for variety of expression in performance.

In this edition of the Mass for five voices the music is transposed down a semitone; the advantage secured for both the Tenor parts by the substitution of G# for A as the highest note, will be obvious.



M 2011 S. & B. 2417. B95M35

Mass for Five Voices William Byrd

Edited by EDMUND H. FELLOWES.

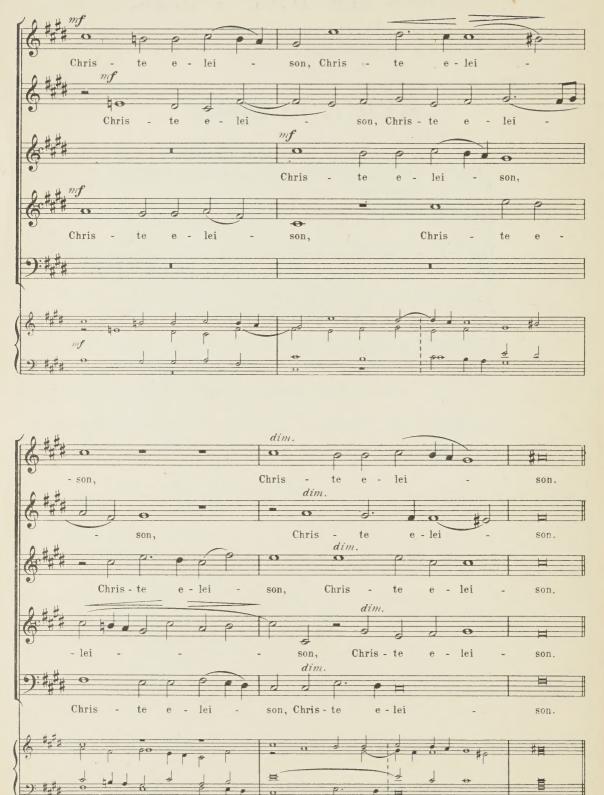
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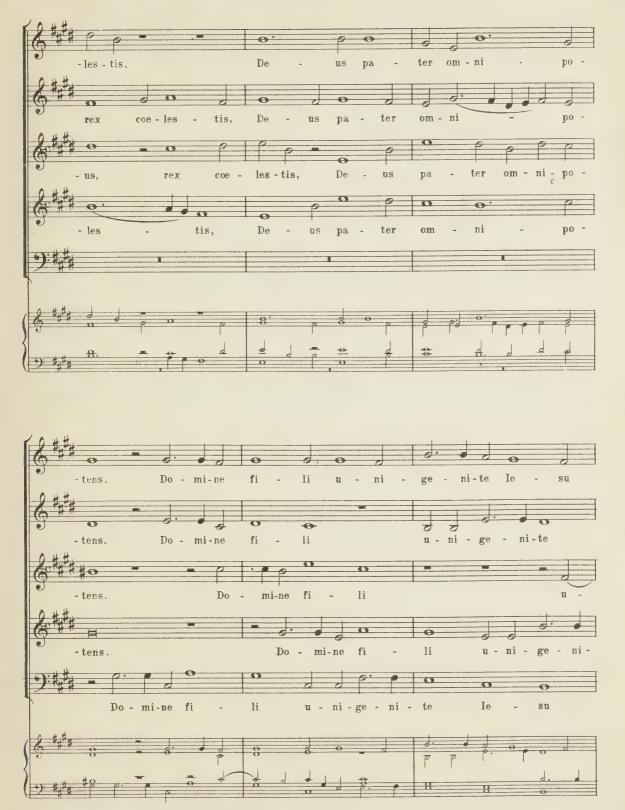
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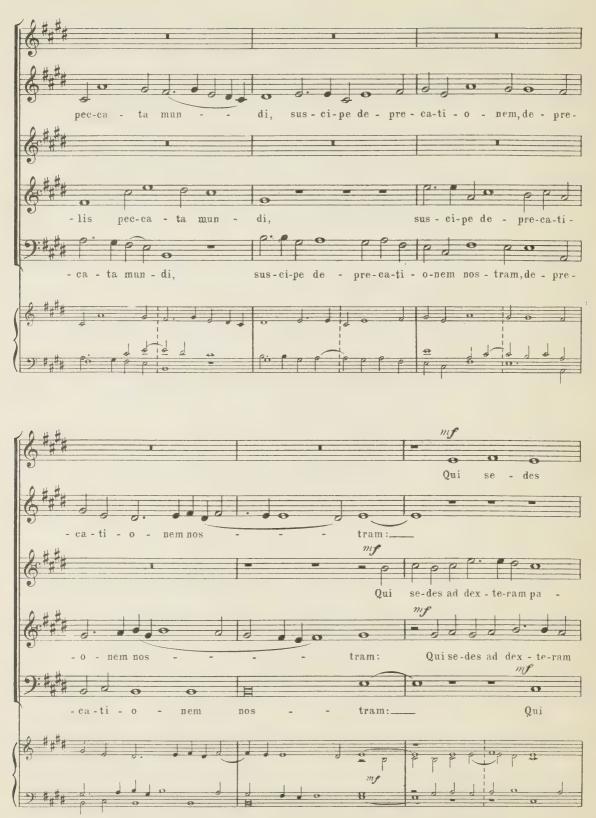






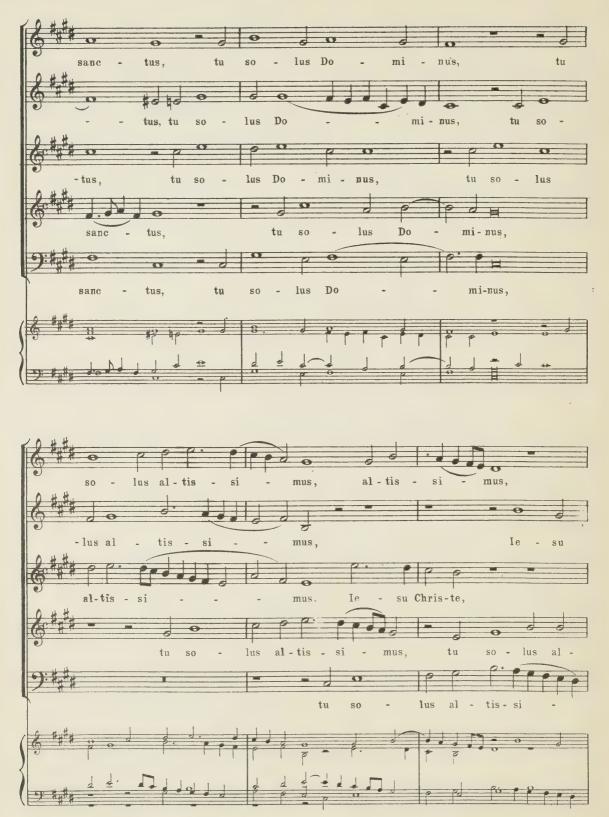
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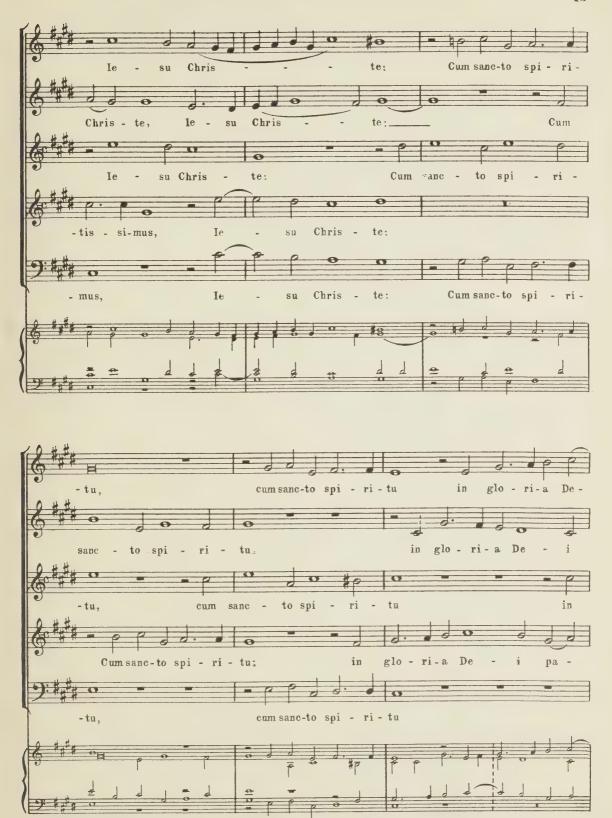


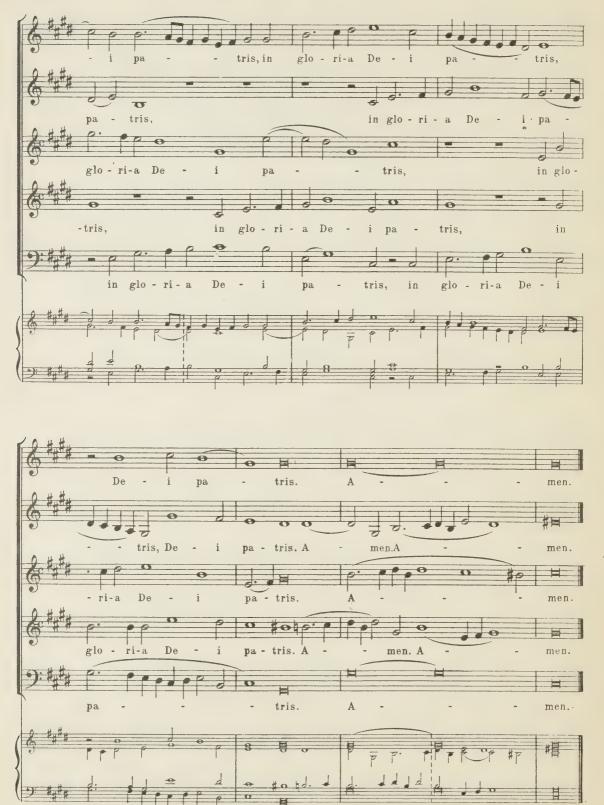


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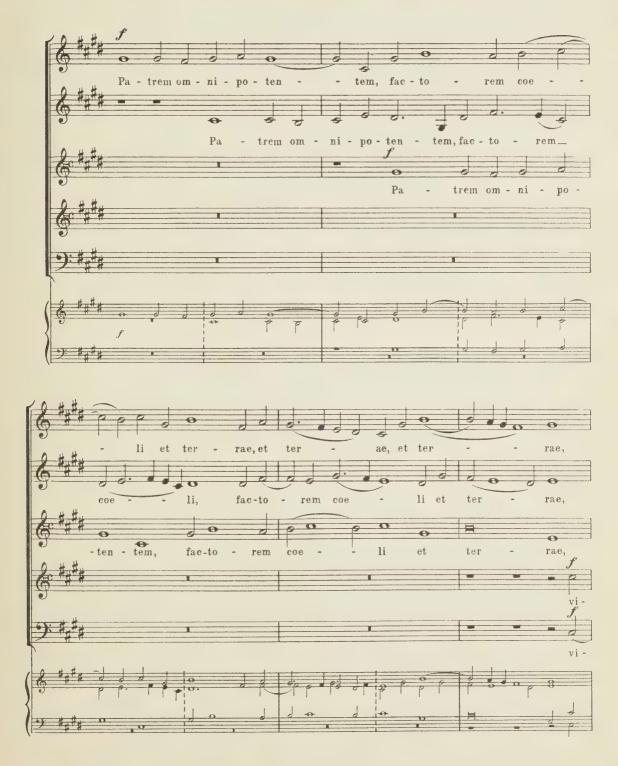




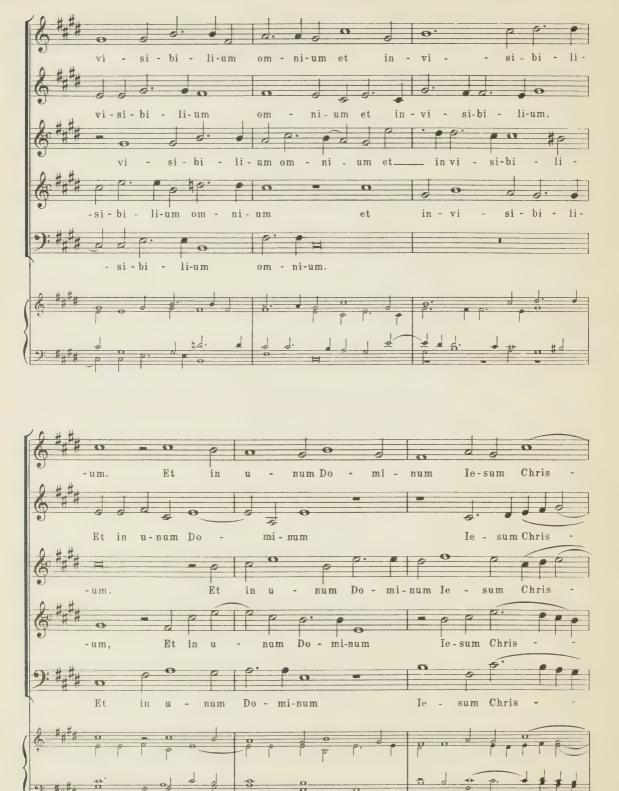




CREDO



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om - ni - a fac - - - ta sunt:

sunt, fac - - - ta sunt:

per quem om - ni - a fac - - - ta sunt:







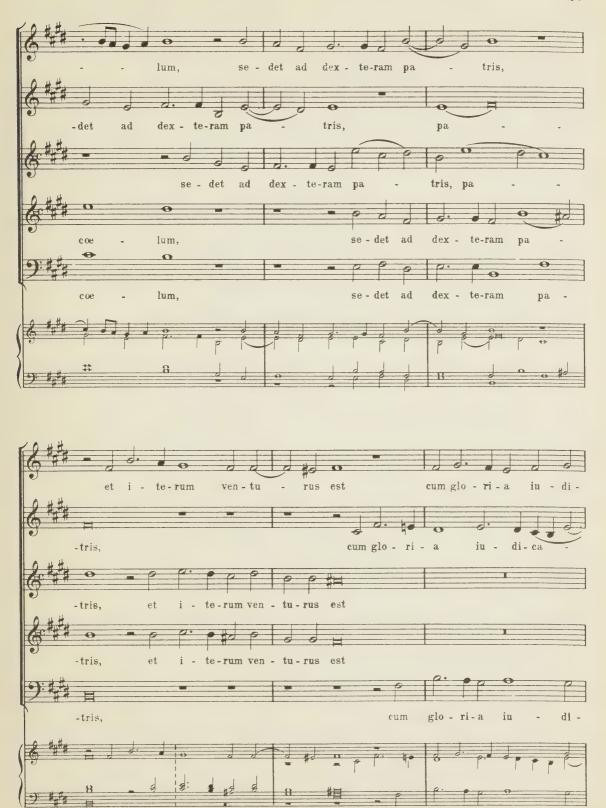






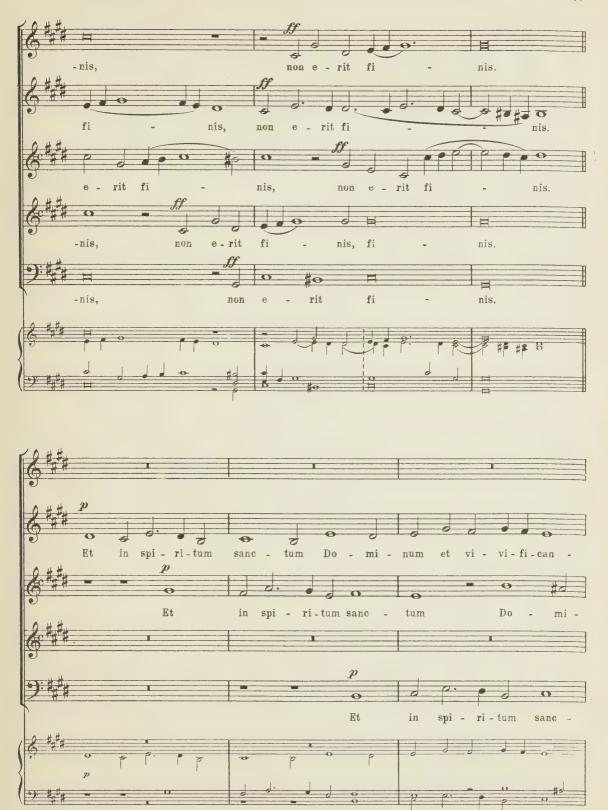








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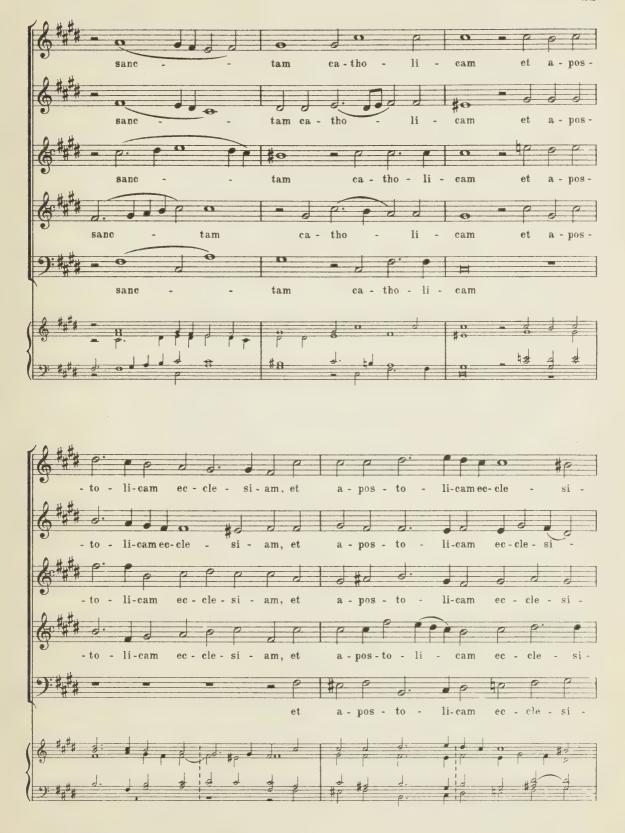
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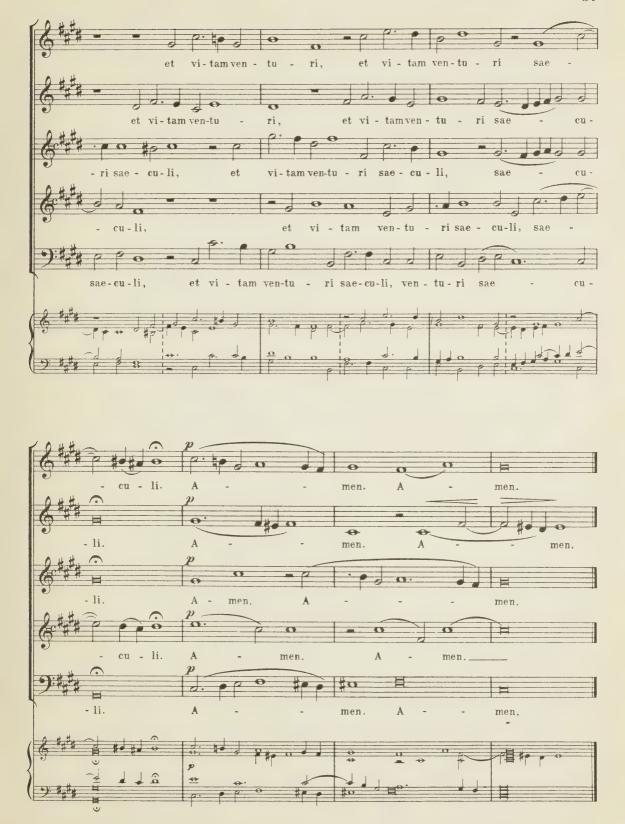












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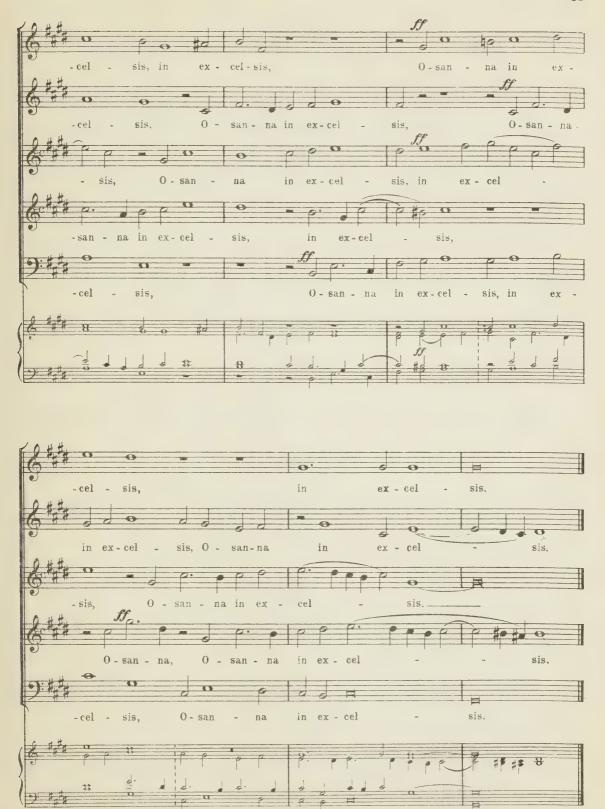
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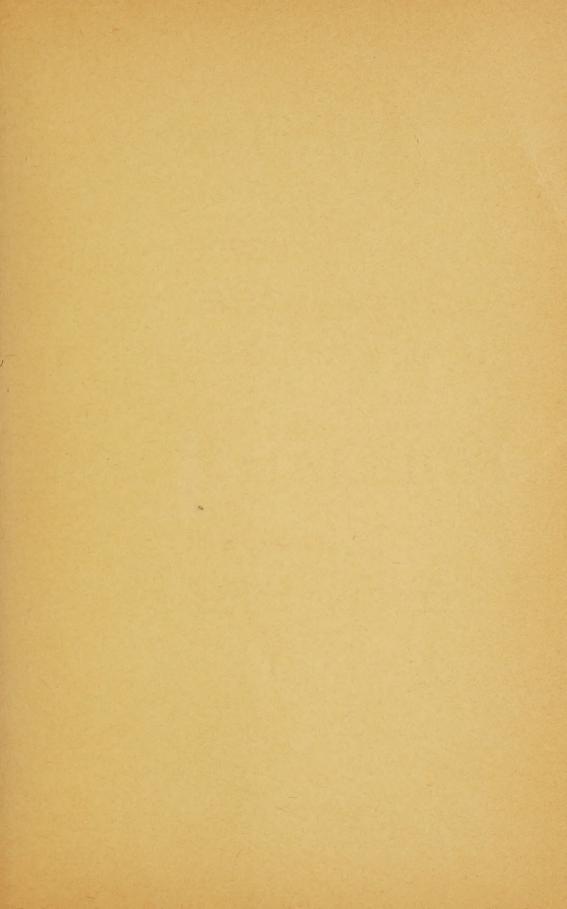
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